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A computer monitoring and diagnostic system, comprising:

a computer;

a plurality of sensors capable of sensing conditions of the computer; and a microcontroller network, comprising a plurality of interconnected microcontrollers, connected to the sensors and the computer, wherein the microcontroller network processes requests for conditions from the computer and responsively provides sensed conditions to the computer.

- The system defined in Claim 1, additionally comprising a client computer connected directly to the microcontroller network to submit condition requests.
- The system defined in Claim 1, wherein the computer includes a plurality of canisters and the microcontroller network controls power to the canisters.
- The system defined in Claim 1, wherein the microcontroller network controls power to a slot.
- The system defined in Claim 1, wherein the microcontroller network logs conditions to a recording system.
- The system defined in Claim 1, wherein the microcontroller network logs messages to non-volatile random access memory.
- The system defined in Claim 1, wherein the microcontroller network controls the system power to the computer.
- The system defined in Claim 1, wherein the microcontroller network is interconnected by an I<sup>2</sup>C bus.
- 9. The system defined in Claim 1, wherein one of the microcontrollers in the microcontroller network is connected to a canister.
- The system defined in Claim 1, further comprising an actuator 10. connected to the microcontroller network, wherein the actuator modifies an environmental condition of the computer. ald By